

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Kindly replace the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 21, with the following amended paragraph:

To cope with this problem, there have been proposed, ~~[[as]]~~ suction tools capable of cleaning at walls and the like, such as suction tools constructed to suck dust at walls and the like by moving upward or turning backward flaps or sealing members mounted on lower parts of front faces of bodies of the suction tools when the bodies of the suction tools are pushed against walls and the like. See Japanese Patent Laid-Open Nos. 1996-3 17886 and 1996-206043, for example.

Kindly replace the paragraph beginning at page 3, line 12, with the following amended paragraph:

Preferably a fibrous material is used as the soft, smooth material. As the fibrous material, a ~~raising~~ cloth may be mentioned.

Kindly replace the paragraph beginning at page 6, with the following amended paragraph:

In the roller 7, a peripheral surface of a core 7c having a rotation axis 7b is covered with a ~~raising~~ cloth 7d which is a fibrous material as a soft, smooth abutting member, as shown in Fig. 5.

Kindly replace the paragraph beginning at page 8, line 14, with the following amended paragraph:

In this example, because the cover 5 itself does not abut to walls or furniture but the roller 7 whose outer periphery is covered with the raising cloth abuts to the walls, the walls W and furniture can be positively prevented from being marred, and the cover 5 can be rotated very smoothly. The covering of the outer periphery of the roller 7 with the raising cloth also provides a smooth horizontal movement of the suction tool 1 in cleaning in the lateral direction with the roller 7 abutting to the wall W.

Kindly replace the paragraph bridging pages 9 and 10, with the following amended paragraph:

In the above-described example, the invention is applied to the floor suction tool whose rotary brush 3 is a brush rotationally driven by a motor (a power brush). However, the invention is not limited thereto. The invention is also applicable to a floor suction tool with a turbine brush or a brush which is rotated by directly receiving sucked air using the rubber blade 12b of the rotary brush 3 or the like. In this case, for example, as shown in Figs. 12 and 13, it is possible to provide a notch 5a in the center or one both sides of the bottom of the cover 5 for sucking air in the direction shown by an arrow in Fig. 13, which air is then received by the rubber blade 12b or the like to rotatably drive the rotary brush 3. In this suction tool, even while the cover 5 is opened by the abutment of the roller 7 to a wall, the rotary brush 3 is capable of rotating since air can passes pass through the outer periphery of the roller 7 made of the raising cloth 7d and through air paths ensured on both the sides. However, if

rollers 71 and 72 are mounted on both the sides of the cover 5, air can be sufficiently taken between the rollers. Thus, the rotating force of the rotary brush 3 can be increased.

Kindly replace the paragraph beginning at page 10, line 21, with the following amended paragraph:

In the above-described example, the cover 5 rotates in the direction in which the cover 5 is accommodated in the main body casing 2 when the floor suction tool 1 abuts the wall W. However, the invention is not limited thereto. For example, as shown in Figs. 16 and 17, if the cover 5 rotates along the outside of the upper case 2a of the main body casing 2, the intended object of the invention can be achieved by covering a part of the cover 5 abutting to the wall W with a raising cloth 7d as in the above-described example.

Kindly replace the paragraph beginning at page 11, line 17, with the following amended paragraph:

The formation of at least [[of]] the front surface of the abutting member of a soft, smooth material allows the abutting member to act as a shock absorber. That prevents walls and furniture from being marred by the suction tool 1 and also the cover 5 can be rotated smoothly. Further, [the] smooth lateral movement of the suction tool 1 can be obtained when cleaning is carried out in the lateral direction with the abutting member abutting to the wall.

Kindly replace the paragraph beginning at page 11, line 24, with the following amended paragraph:

The use of a fibrous material, more particularly, a ~~raising~~ cloth as the soft, smooth material smoothens the lateral movement more when cleaning is carried out in the lateral direction with the abutting member abutting the wall.